

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/997,786

Examiner

Trung Q Nguyen

Applicant(s)

WALKER ET AL

Art Unit

2829

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/10/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-15, 17-27 and 29-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>0104</u> |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicants provisionally elected group II, which, claims 8-20 and 22-32 in paper No. 1103. In addition, Applicants filed an amendment where in, claims 1, 21 and 26 disclose the same allowable limitations. Therefore, the previous restriction is no longer applied because all inventions are not distinct to each other.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 3, **change** "The method of Claim 2" **to** --The method of Claim 1--

In claim 17, **change** "The apparatus of Claim 16" **to** --The apparatus of Claim 8--

In claim 29, **change** "The apparatus of Claim 28" **to** --The apparatus of Claim 26--

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 3-15, 17-27 and 29-32 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

claims 1, 21 and 26 recite, inter alia, "a method for detecting quiescent current in an integrated circuit comprising a step of converting the differential voltage signal to a digital format comprises converting the differential voltage signal into a digital bit stream that is communicated to a counter such that an accumulated result is generated in the

counter, the accumulated result representing the approximate Gaussian distribution of the magnetic field signal."

claims 8 and 22-25 recite, inter alia, "an apparatus for detecting quiescent current in an integrated circuit comprising the stochastic sensor comprises one or more flip flops operable to receive the differential voltage signal, each of the flip flops operable to compare the differential voltage signal and background noise and in response to the comparison flip in order to produce a selected binary digit."

The art of record does not disclose the above limitations, nor would it be obvious to modify the art of record so as to include the above limitations. Although Yoshino (U.S. 5,850,129) discloses a drive circuit for a three-phase brushless motor and Riley (U.S. 6,404,291) discloses linear low noise phase loop frequency synthesizer using controlled divider pulse widths, they do not disclose the above-mentioned limitations.

Conclusion

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Trung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703)-305-4925. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30AM – 5:00PM. The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is

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assigned are (703) 872-9306. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cuneo Kamand can be reached at (703) 308-1233. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-0956.

Trung Nguyen
Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2829
January 09, 2003